(b) whether any consultations have been held in this regard with the telecom operators;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is working on giving 10 digit telephone number for landlines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) There are no artificial barriers.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The proposal involves a 10 digit common numbering scheme for wireline and wireless.

Cyber-cafe in the villages

†2459. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to set up cyber cafe in the villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main purpose of Government to set up cyber cafes in the villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Department of Information Technology (DIT) is working on a plan to establish Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enabled Common Services Centres (CSCs) predominantly in the rural areas across the country. These CSCs would be promoted on a sustainable entrepreneur-based model supported by the Central and State Governments.

The draft framework prepared for the CSCs envisages that these centres would be offering a mix of services (both Government and non-Government including localised services) that may be needed by the local community.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.